

Local Uprisings and Street Fighting

People's Revolution and Guerrilla
Warfare, By Chao K'ang, Hankow, 1938

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PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION AND GUERRILLA WARFARE

CHAPTER XI.

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What is a local uprising?

It is an organized armed revolt against the garrison rule of national enemies and puppet traitors which the people can no longer endure, and the restoration of national authority. This form of uprising is a local manifestation of the popular revolutionary movement. When there is a series of such local uprisings they may be joined up into a revolutionary flood tide.

Street fighting is the application of guerilla tactics to carrying out an uprising in a city or town according to the actual conditions prevailing. The responsibility of guerilla forces in such a situation is to assist and expand the people's uprising in enemy territory and to organize and lead out in street fighting. They should use every possible method and all their strength to induce the people to initiate their own actions and encourage them to struggle against the enemy until such struggle results in an armed insurrection. Guerilla units should aid and protect the insurrectionists, keep a watch on the traitors who would oppose them, guide the insurrectionists in their activities and guard them from enemy attacks in force. Since the guerillas are the basic force in guerilla warfare the above responsibility is particularly heavy. Since at present a large part of our country is occupied we must organize the national struggle and we must enlist the aid of our countrymen who are under the enemy's heel. We must start revolutionary fires everywhere that will run together into a general conflagration. This will give the enemy unimagined trouble in maintaining his military stability behind his lines. Hence, we have devoted a chapter to the question of local uprisings and street fighting.

First of all, it should be remembered that a local uprising is not a thing that can be stirred up anywhere at any time merely because an area is under enemy rule. Various subjective and objective conditions must be considered. Uprisings, like war, are a form of art. An armed uprising is a special type of political struggle. Hence, it has its own special regulations and organizational methods. It is proper to ask what the special conditions for starting an armed uprising are. The answers are:

1. An uprising must depend upon a rising tide of revolutionary opposition to aggression and Chinese traitors. The tide of revolutionary struggle frequently benefits by the sorrows of the people in its beginnings. Such a struggle can quickly be diverted into a political struggle for national liberation.

However, under the present threat of national and racial extinction a struggle may be political from the beginning in an endeavor to preserve national existence. The determination and spirit manifested in such a struggle is the first condition for organizing an uprising.

2. An uprising does not depend upon a small group of bold spirits or any party, but upon the concerted effort of people who, under the threat of national and racial extinction, refuse to become slaves without a country. A group of such Chinese when united provide a stable base for organizing an insurrection. An uprising is not a secret plan but is a political and national struggle, hence, it should be promoted from a stable base of a nationalistic battlefront.

3. Another condition for consideration [in planning] an uprising is to estimate the enemy's strength as well as one's own, i.e., select a time when the enemy is weak for a sudden strike. Such a time is

when the enemy's occupation government is in great trepidation, especially when his forces are wavering and there is a ferment of defection working among them.

4. An insurrection should be tied in with the strategic^{*} plans the national revolutionary struggle and not be permitted to stop short or become isolated. It should rather be strengthened and expanded. The planners of an uprising should not merely take into consideration the local situation. Plans for a local uprising should be integrated with the principles governing the victory of the total national revolutionary struggle.

It should be noted that the conditions for an uprising named above are not natural developments, but are the fruitage of the bitter, sacrificial efforts of patriots. If local conditions indicate it and the national revolutionary struggle demands it, the organization and technical preparations for a local uprising should be undertaken without hesitation or misgivings. The factors involved in such preparation are outlined below.

A. Special Weaknesses and Strength of the Insurrectionists.

In order to lay out the organizations and technique of an uprising it is necessary first to understand the weakness and strength of such an uprising. These should be carefully appraised.

The weak points of those who would engage in an uprising usually are:

1. Lack of Arms.

Every effort should be made to provide the masses with arms when an uprising breaks out. Every type of weapon available should be brought

into play. The most efficient weapon in street fighting is the tommy gun, followed in usefulness by powerful hand grenades and bombs. At the beginning of an uprising the insurrectionists should have in hand at least enough weapons to enable them to secure more by attacking arms dumps and arsenals, and by disarming Chinese puppet troops.

2. Many of those involved in uprisings know not how to use arms, some even being unable to fire a weapon. Hence, pre-uprising instruction is necessary, especially for using the more complicated and powerful weapons such as machine guns.

3. Insurrectionists are short on military preparation. Very few of them can assume military leadership. They have no experience of military discipline and farmers are naturally inclined to individualism.

4. Insurrectionists are easily excited, a slight set-back may discourage them, hence, they should strive for steady success.

To achieve this objective the best fighters should be concentrated against the most important objectives. Measures must be taken to minimize any set-backs by constantly reporting the most important gains.

The strength of insurrectionists lies in the following points:

1. They are intensely interested in victory. Hence, they often reveal the most intense enthusiasm, sacrifice, resolution, and inventiveness. These qualities can result in very bold advances.

2. Since the people in a city are very familiar with all its characteristics and living conditions they know how to come upon the enemy unawares and how to hide when pressed too hard.

3. The masses in a city usually stand on the side of those carrying out an uprising in the name of the national cause and can give them great aid and comfort.

Having gauged the strength and weaknesses of those staging an uprising, it is important, in organizing them, to consider:

1. The inner organization of the puppet enemy troops is not consolidated; the rank and ^{file} ~~rank~~ of the troops are easily influenced by the national revolutionary cause. However, the enemy uses these impressed Chinese troops as the vanguard of their suppression of any popular uprising, hence, it is important to use every possible strategy to ^{influence} ~~convince~~ a portion of these troops to come over to the side of the insurrectionists.

2. With regard to the enemy's own troops or the more faithful of his puppet troops, it is best to make a sudden attack on their quarters before they can get organized or bring their fire power to bear and annihilate them.

3. In case a sudden attack fails to exterminate them the remnant should be barricaded in and siege laid to them from all sides. While laying siege to the enemy and preparing a destructive attack it is necessary to observe other phases of the operation such as:

- a. Cut off his communications with outside aid.
- b. Cut off his water and light and food supplies.
- c. Send raiding parties against him and employ deceptive propaganda to reduce physical and spiritual resistance.

4. In case the enemy force is already in the city and engaged in street fighting it will be necessary to man the barricades to impede his progress and to organize very formidable street fighter groups to make bold attacks at all possible points.

5. In organizing an insurrection care should be taken to arm the populace and train them in the use of arms.

B. Organization of Insurrection Forces.

Ordinarily insurrection forces are obtained from the following sources:

1. Local secret or semi-secret armed partisans.
2. Reorganized renegade forces of the enemy.
3. Guerilla units.

Before an insurrection there should be good organization of the personnel. The possibilities of this are frequently the result of the efforts of ardent patriots. With a group of such recruits available organization can readily be undertaken, even in the enemy's territory, though, of course, the hazards of such activity are greatly multiplied under such conditions.

Effort should be concentrated upon the following considerations:

1. Take advantage of every opportunity and type of organization, but always the question of security for the activity must be uppermost, giving the enemy no opportunity to break up the operation. Since the people are prohibited from having weapons or ~~assembling~~^{meeting} in groups, this, naturally, makes organization the more difficult, resulting in the necessity for great secrecy. In factories, villages, and schools, whether with many or few persons, as opportunity offers, distribute weapons and give training in the use of them. All available military talent should be enlisted in the task of organization and training. When the insurrection takes place these men naturally assume the leadership of the units they have trained.

2. Every attempt should be made to corrupt enemy units from his own alien troops through the ranks of his puppet troops and local

militia. The details of this type of activity have been outlined in Chapter X. One item to be elaborated here is the establishment of cells among enemy troops. These should not be very large and should have little horizontal liaison to avoid the enemy discovering the whole organization if a single unit is discovered.

Fases should be established within the enemy's military industries and among the people dwelling in the proximity of his troop installations so that when an insurrection is started the people in these strategic areas will immediately rise and aid the insurrectionists.

3. If guerilla forces are in the neighborhood of an uprising they are the natural allies and reinforcements for the action. When an uprising is imminent secret word should be passed to such nearby guerilla units in order to ensure their cooperation.

When the populace arises the armed groups within the city should immediately make contact with guerilla units outside in order to secure more substantial results than could be obtained otherwise.

When it appears the time is ripe for an uprising:

- a. Small groups [cells] of insurrectionists should be organized.
- b. A secret insurrectionist headquarters staff should be organized,

made up of representatives of the leaders of the patriot groups, leaders of the secret armed units, of the revolutionary organization within the enemy forces, and of the nearby guerilla units. This headquarters staff should undertake the perfecting of the arrangements for the uprising with the utmost sincerity.

- c. Settle upon the plans for the uprising.

C. Plans for Insurrection.

An insurrection must follow the plans laid down. While planners cannot foresee all the exigencies of a developing uprising, they must provide for the distribution of strength for the initial stages and determine the proximate and the ultimate responsibilities of each unit.

Such planning involves consideration of:

1. Which districts and what objectives are most important, whether a conditional victory is acceptable or not, how such a victory would affect the success of future uprisings.
2. What districts are of secondary importance.
3. The employment of the greatest strength available against the most important objectives.
4. The secondary activities of a unit following achievement of its primary objective and the course to be followed in case of failure.
5. Preventive tactics against outside enemy reinforcements arriving from other garrisons, disruption of communications, and preventive activities of cooperating guerilla units.
6. How, in the course of an uprising, to secure the best cooperation of armed and unarmed segments of the populace.

Planners for an insurrection must hold the following points to be basic:

- a. They must be clearly cognizant of the social conditions and plan according to the make up of the population, their organizational status, the degree of their national consciousness, and of their revolutionary spirit in determining where to base the uprising and immediately secure control of this area for the purpose. At the same

time they should be aware of the spots where there would be the greatest opposition to an uprising such as areas where traitors and ronin are numerous. Their plans should include elimination of such areas.

b. They should know the disposition and locations of enemy forces and the location of ammunition dumps. Troop movements of the enemy require changes in insurrectionary plans, hence, there is need for an efficient spy system to keep them informed on enemy movements.

c. Plans must include careful estimates of where it is desirable to attack and where to provide defense. Planning permits a reasonable time for each unit and sub-unit to study their primary objectives and the possibilities of providing sufficient armed forces to reach these objectives. Planning allows each leader time to assemble the required strength for his purposes, strength for agitation, strength in armed units, and weapons, in order to prepare for all contingencies in connection with accomplishing his most important objectives. The points of basic importance in planning an uprising may be aligned as follows:

- (1) Employment of sudden and of concerted attack to take a revealed cache of material.
- (2) Sudden attack to disarm suburban aggressor troops and traitor militia.
- (3) Immediate occupation of the most important administrative centers (police headquarters, enemy spy centers, and offices of puppet officials).
- (4) Simultaneous concerted drive from the suburbs by armed units to force the enemy into the center of the city with no avenue of escape so that he may be annihilated.

(5) Armed units should occupy as rapidly as possible post offices, telegraph stations, railway and bus stations, airports and other important points. Such activities can only be effected by conjunction of units within and without a city. To prevent arrival of enemy reinforcements road blocks must be set up 25 kilometers from the city and roads destroyed.

D. Objectives of Attack in an Insurrection.

1. Capture weapons.

In previous discussion it was indicated that the first weakness of insurrectionaries is shortage of weapons. A minimum of weapons will not meet the need to conquer the enemy and his puppets. ^{So} the first objective should be to capture weapons by attack on enemy weapons depots the whereabouts of which have been discovered previously and plans laid for quick capture. They must then be quickly distributed to the insurrectionists and to trained fighters who have no weapons. Naturally, the enemy will be prepared as best he can to guard his weapons from capture and the planners of an insurrection must bear this fact in mind and be prepared for opposition and to destroy his guards. In case the people cannot be armed as quickly as planned the minimum desideratum is to contain the guards until enough strength can be concentrated to overcome them.

2. Aggressor Garrisons and Riot Squads.

These are the special anti-insurrection forces. They are equipped with the latest weapons such as artillery, tanks and airplanes. Hence, the first objective in an insurrection is to eliminate these enemy units. With adequate preparation, and particularly at night, the insurrectionary forces can make a stealthy attack on their barracks.

Caught unawares they will be unable to use their equipment to advantage. In attacking riot squad quarters the best weapons are hand grenades and powerful bombs.

Enemy artillery units are best dealt with by barricades in streets and alleys where resistance can be made. These must be protected by trench traps from the advance of enemy mechanized units. The best form of barricade is barbed wire; but any available objects may be piled up for barricades. Defenders of the barricades should hide in surrounding buildings and basements, but a limited number of riflemen must be on top of the barricades. Machine guns should be aimed at the angles of street crossings to reduce dead corners to a minimum. Men with grenades or bombs should be stationed in hiding closely alongside the barriers so that their missiles can be thrown at any one of the enemy approaching the barricade. The hiding place should at the same time be under cover of the guns of the defenders of the barricades.

Defense against armored cars and tanks is by means of trenches from $1\frac{1}{2}$ meters to three meters in width and from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to two meters in depth and the use of high-powered grenades and bombs thrown under such vehicles.

When the enemy uses planes for scouting and attack the insurrectionists will have to make the best possible use of the terrain for shelter.

3. Puppet Troops.

Except for traitorous leaders puppet troops are usually unwillingly engaged in slaughter of their own people, hence, all effort should be made by the insurrectionists to win them over to their side by sending able fifth columnists among them and by encouraging patriotic

members of the populace to cultivate their association. Their reactionary officers should be liquidated and communications between headquarters and troops should be cut off. Any puppet troops who persist in allegiance to the enemy should be stoutly attacked.

4. Chinese Traitors.

All native traitors who have aided the occupying forces in setting up puppet governments should be liquidated as fast as possible during the height of the uprising. At the beginning of the uprising their residencies should be surrounded and they be killed or compelled to cease connection with the enemy. Important leaders of enemy puppet governments should never be spared in order that they may not be able to spread traitorous infection.

5. Government Offices and Communications Centers.

Telegraph and telephone exchanges and post offices should be immediately occupied to cut off the enemy's communications with the outside. Secondly, banks and currency institutions should be seized to secure funds for the cause.

6. Enemy places of business are centers of enemy control and should be quickly surrounded and their managing personnel sequestered and those who do business with them put under surveillance.

E. Points to Be Observed When an Uprising Starts.

1. Selection of Important Points of Attack.

All armed strength and equipment should be committed at the beginning of an uprising to the securing of the chief objectives. Leaders must be thoroughly conversant with the plans and know just where to concentrate their forces from the beginning of the action.

2. The attack must be sudden and unexpected to prevent the enemy from salvaging any of his strength or weapons. Ordinarily, therefore, the best time to initiate action is early morning or during the night.

3. In order to prevent the enemy having any opportunity to react against segments of the uprising the total action must be initiated simultaneously.

4. Insurrectionists must not overlook a single favorable opportunity to resolutely press their attack on their enemy. When an objective has been reached and secured, action must continue till all enemy personnel is eliminated. The action should be enlarged as fast and as far as possible with a view to a revolutionary struggle on a national scale.

5. Only under steady and resolute leadership can an insurrection be expanded and final victory achieved. Hence, it is necessary that an insurrectionary headquarters should be in the hands of men of wisdom, endurance, bravery, integrity and faith that will inspire complete respect and confidence.

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Important Instructions for Street Fighting.

1. By means of an intelligence network leaders of an uprising should have previous adequate knowledge of all buildings occupied by the enemy and should be familiar with all street conditions and special topographical features.

2. A method of liaison maintenance should be determined upon and understood before action begins, such as chalk markings at street corners, on walls and pavements, light signals, sound devices, etc. to make sure that the various units of insurrectionaries do not lose touch with one another or take the wrong routes toward objectives or rendezvous.

3. The various fighting units of an insurrectionary movement should be small to allow for mobility in street fighting and provide against members of a unit becoming separated.

4. Insurrectionaries should know how to make the best use of cover from enemy fire such as shelter inside of or behind buildings. They should also know how to choose vantage points such as windows, roof tops and narrow alleys for their aggressive activities against the enemy.

5. When getting rid of the enemy's obstructions the attack may be frontal or circuitous, or a combination of the two.

6. In setting up their own street barriers insurrectionaries should use ready-to-hand, easily removable objects.

7. In surrounding an enemy strong point structure where the enemy puts up sustained resistance, taking into consideration the nature of the structure, the surrounding terrain, the quality of the resistance, positions of attack should be selected that afford good firing conditions with equally good cover from enemy fire, and ease of dispersion. The attack may then be made against the front, against both front and back simultaneously, or detonation may be employed as appears most likely to succeed. Each platoon leader [*hsin-tui-chang*] should be a man of special stability and courage, able to lead his group in carrying out their own assigned task in accomplishing the total task of the insurrection.